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4/18/06

**United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region V  
POLLUTION REPORT**

**EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.**  
  
**255738**

**Date:** Tuesday, April 18, 2006  
**From:** Mike Ribordy and Steve Faryan, OSC

**To:** David Chung, U.S. EPA                      John Maritote, U.S. EPA  
Linda Nachowicz, U.S. EPA

**Subject:** Initial and Final POLREP  
Gor Drum Site  
6147 West 65th Street, Bedford Park, IL  
Latitude: 41.7739  
Longitude: -87.7758

<b>POLREP No.:</b>	1	<b>Site #:</b>	B5CK
<b>Reporting Period:</b>	9/15/2005 - 11/5/2005	<b>D.O. #:</b>	
<b>Start Date:</b>	8/30/2005	<b>Response Authority:</b>	CERCLA
<b>Mob Date:</b>	8/30/2005	<b>Response Type:</b>	Time-Critical
<b>Completion Date:</b>	12/15/2005	<b>NPL Status:</b>	Non NPL
<b>CERCLIS ID #:</b>		<b>Incident Category:</b>	Removal Action
<b>RCRIS ID #:</b>		<b>Contract #</b>	

**Site Description**

The Gor Drum site consists of a parking lot located at 6158 West 65th Street, Chicago, Cook County, Illinois and a dilapidated building located at 6147 West 65th Street, Bedford Park, Illinois. The Site is in an industrial, commercial, and residential area at the intersection of West 65th Street and South Melvina Avenue. The building was operated by VJ Compounding Corporation, d/b/a th L. Carlton Mertz Company. Its president is Vishnu Gor. The company is a private label compounding operation that formulated and mixed primarily cleaning compounds. In addition, another of Mr. Gor's companies, Ravi Corporation, owns the lot across West 65th Street which is a fenced parking area currently holding fourteen semi-trailers. This lot was used by employees of L. Carlton Mertz to park their cars.

On or around July 8, 2005, the Bedford Park Fire Department discovered fourteen semi-trailer trucks parked at the Site. Upon closer observation, it was discovered that one of the trailers was leaking an unknown substance. The Bedford Park Fire Department contacted the City of Chicago since the trailers were located within the Chicago City limits.

On July 13th, the U.S. EPA Emergency Response Branch (ERB) responded to a request from the City of Chicago Department of the Environment (DOE), regarding a parking lot with fourteen semi-trailers filled with drums and totes of unknown chemicals, some of which were leaking. Upon arrival at the Site, U.S. EPA ERB met with Chicago DOE, U.S. EPA CID,

and IEPA. At least nine of the fourteen trailers appeared to be full of 55-gallon drums and totes. U.S. EPA and IEPA sampled some of the drums nearest to the trailer doors with pH paper. IEPA documented the sampling in his memorandum dated July 14, 2005, which indicates that two 55-gallon drums were sampled and screened with pH paper and found to have a pH of 14 and their contents were leaking their contents. Based on this limited sampling, information obtained from the owners of the trailers, and by identification of visible drum labels, and information regarding prior business operations at the Site, it was determined that some of the drums and totes contained acids, caustics, and oxidizers.

Many of the drums inside the trailers were in poor condition with material present on the outside of the drums. The leaking containers appeared to be perfume agents used in the manufacturing of industrial cleansers. Sorbent pads and oil dry were used to contain the perfume agents. The owners of the parking lot indicated that contents of the trailers were previously owned by them, but had been sold to Farhut, Inc. However, Farhut, Inc., through its president, Mohammed Gheith, has denied ownership. Because no parties claimed ownership, the U.S. EPA considers the drums and totes in the trailers and in the dilapidated building to be abandoned.

On July 14th, U.S. EPA gave verbal notice to representatives of Ravi and VJ Compounding Corporations, the owners and operators on the Site to address the drums and totes; the representatives agreed to secure the Site and address the drums.

On July 26, 2005, U.S. EPA met with Neil Gor, who represents the owner of the Site, Ravi Corporation. U.S. EPA observed that a chain-link fence had been constructed around the fourteen trailers with a locked gate and a security guard present in the area. One of the trailers was still leaking material to the ground. U.S. EPA requested a container be placed under the trailer to contain the spilled material. U.S. EPA also inspected the warehouse immediately south of the parking area. Mr. Gor was interested in using the old warehouse to stage and sample the drums in the trailers. U.S. EPA observed over 500 55-gallon drums and a number of totes throughout the dilapidated building. Many of the drums were in poor condition with material present on the outside of the drums. Some of the drums were leaking their contents onto the floor. Many of the drums had labels indicating they contained acids, caustics, and oxidizers. Laboratory chemicals from the on-site laboratory were being stored in the building. Numerous pallets were observed stacked with bags of raw materials including sodium hydroxide. Many of these bags were ripped open, releasing their contents. The totes reportedly contain waste water from previous Site operations.

On August 10, 2005, U.S. EPA met Neil Gor again at the old warehouse location and observed a slight haze in the warehouse most likely due to fumes from acid reacting with rain water. The acid was leaking from a nitric acid tank. A strong acid odor was noted in the vicinity of this acid tank in the southeast corner of the building. The roof of the building was found to be leaking in several places. A number of windows were broken both at street level and near the roof line. The broken windows could allow access into the building.

## **Current Activities**

Beginning in September 2005, the LC Mertz/Gor Drum contractor began staging and inventorying drums and containers located in both the warehouse and in trailers in the parking area. Trailers in the parking area were moved to the warehouse loading dock and the contents of the trailers were off loaded and staged in the warehouse.

There were 876 containers and 13 totes found in the warehouse. Most were full 55-gallon drums. An additional 5 55-gallon drums were found within the warehouse under a covered railroad spur. There were 715 containers removed from the trailers and staged in the warehouse. Most of these containers were also 55-gallon drums with several totes.

All drums, containers, and tanks were given an identification number, sampled and hazard characterized (haz-cat). The waste stream summary is provided in the Documents Section on the Site web page. Representative samples of the identified waste streams were sent to a laboratory for analysis. Materials were grouped into their respective waste streams for disposal.

All other RCRA empty drums, totes and jugs were cut/crushed.

In addition, the floor drainage pit was pumped and rinsed, several tanks on-site were emptied and rinsed. Contents of the floor pit and tanks were characterized and appropriately disposed of off-site. The floor and machinery were cleaned. The contractor demobed from the site on December 15, 2005.

All waste materials were sent off-site to appropriate disposal facilities. See the Waste Disposition Summary below for final waste stream disposal information.

Oversight of the work was conducted by U.S. EPA and the Bedford Park Police Department.

### **Next Steps**

Responsible party is required to submit Removal Action Completion Report.

### **Key Issues**

The RP's contractor has not been paid for all of the work conducted. U.S. EPA has not been able to obtain a final Removal Action Completion Report documenting that all required work has been adequately completed.

### **Estimated Costs \***

	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Total To Date</b>	<b>Remaining</b>	<b>% Remaining</b>
<b>Extramural Costs</b>				
<b>Intramural Costs</b>				
USEPA - Direct (Region, HQ)	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	0.00%

<b>Total Site Costs</b>	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	0.00%
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\* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

### Disposition of Wastes

<b>Waste Stream</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Manifest #</b>	<b>Disposal Facility</b>
Waste Flammable Liquids (Methanol, Petroleum Distillates)	21 drums/8000 pounds	IL11774531	Clean Harbors Services, Inc. Chicago, IL
Waste Hydrofluoric Acid (D002)	4 drums/1600 pounds	IL11774531	Clean Harbors Services, Inc. Chicago, IL
Waste Corrosive Liquid, Basic, Inorganic, (Sodium Hydroxide, Potassium Hydroxide)	38 drums/15,200 Pounds	IL11774531	Clean Harbors Services, Inc. Chicago, IL
Waste Corrosive Liquid, Acidic, Inorganic (Nitric Acid, Phosphoric Acid)	2 Drums/800 pounds	IL11774531	Clean Harbors Services, Inc. Chicago, IL
Waste Corrosive Liquid (sulfuric acid, phosphoric acid)	23 Drums/9,200 pounds	IL11774531	Clean Harbors Services, Inc. Chicago, IL
Waste Fluorosilicic Acid	1 drum/160 pounds	IL11774531	Clean Harbors Services, Inc. Chicago, IL
Waste Corrosive Liquid (Nitric Acid, Phosphoric Acid)	32 Drums/16,000 pounds	IL11774523	Clean Harbors Services, Inc. Chicago, IL
Waste Corrosive Liquid (Sulfuric Acid, Phosphoric Acid)	60 Drums/28,000 pounds	IL11774523	Clean Harbors Services, Inc. Chicago, IL
Liquid Soap	103 Drums/39,800	IL11760675	Southern Illinois Regional Landfill,

	pounds		Desoto, IL
Liquid Soap	94 Drums/4,700 Gallons	IL11760674	Southern Illinois Regional Landfill, Desoto, IL
Waste Sodium Hydroxide	50 Drums/20,000 pounds	IL11760704	Southern Illinois Regional Landfill, Desoto, IL
Waste Sodium Hydroxide	43 drums/17,200 pounds	IL11760704	Southern Illinois Regional Landfill, Desoto, IL
Liquid Soap	90 drums/4,800 gallons	IL11760697	Southern Illinois Regional Landfill, Desoto, IL
Waste Corrosive Liquid (Sodium Hydroxide, Potassium Hydroxide) (D002)	52 Drums/2,600 gallons	IL11433585	Clean Harbors Services, Inc., Chicago, IL
Waste Corrosive Liquid (Sulfuric Acid, Phosphoric Acid)	44 Drums/2,200 gallons	IL11433585	Clean Harbors Services, Inc., Chicago, IL
Waste Corrosive Liquid (Sodium Hydroxide, Potassium Hydroxide)	42 drums/1960 gallons	IL11433582	Clean Harbors Services, Inc., Chicago, IL
Waste Corrosive Liquid (Sulfuric Acid, Phosphoric Acid)	54 Drums/2470 gallons	IL11433582	Clean Harbors Services, Inc., Chicago, IL
Liquid Soap	96 Drums/4,800 gallons	IL11760698	Southern Illinois Regional Landfill, Desoto, IL
Floor Pit and Tote Rinsate (non regulated)	1 tanker truck/4286 gallons	IL11760707	Southern Illinois Regional Landfill, Desoto, IL
Waste Oxidizing Solid (Sodium Nitrate, Potassium Nitrate)	69 Drums/27,600 pounds	IL11774809	Sping Grove Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH
Waste Oxidizing Solid (Sodium Nitrate, Sodium Chromate)	18 Drums/1,800 pounds	IL11774809	Sping Grove Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH
Waste Calcium Nitrate	4 drums/1600 pounds	IL11774809	Sping Grove Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH
Waste Oxidizing Solid (Sodium	10 drums/4000	IL11774809	Sping Grove

Nitrate, Sodium Hydrogendifluoride)	pounds		Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH
Waste Barium Compounds	10 drums/4000 pounds	IL11774809	Sping Grove Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH
Toxic Solid, Corrosive (Sodium Fluoride, Sodium Hydrogen Fluoride)	2 drums/800 pounds	IL11774809	Sping Grove Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH
Waste Flammable Liquids (Methanol, Petroleum Distillates)	46 Drums/2300 gallons	IL11774806	Sping Grove Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH
• Waste Oxidizing Liquid (Sodium Nitrate, Potassium Nitrate)	10 drums/500 gallons	IL11774806	Sping Grove Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH
Waste Corrosive Liquid (Phosphoric Acid, Phosphate Ester)	1 drum/50 gallons	IL11774806	Sping Grove Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH
Waste Corrosive Liquid (Sodium Hydroxide, Potassium Hydroxide)	13 drums/650 gallons	IL11774806	Sping Grove Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH
Waste Corrosive Liquid (Sulfuric Acid, Phosphoric Acid)	10 drums/500 gallons	IL11774806	Sping Grove Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH
Waste Corrosive Liquid (hydroxyacetic acid)	3 drums/150 gallons	IL11774806	Sping Grove Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH
Waste Ferric Chloride, Solution	1 drum/50 gallons	IL11774806	Sping Grove Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH
Waste Ethanolamine or Ethanolamine Solutions	11 drums/550 gallons	IL11774806	Sping Grove Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH
Waste Hypochlorite Solutions	1 drum/50 gallons	IL11774806	Sping Grove Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH
Waste Compressed Gas (D001)	2 drums/200 pounds	3932620	Clean Harbors La Porte, La Porte, Texas
Waste Flammable Liquids (Methanol, Petroleum Distillates)	17 drums/6400 pounds	IL11433598	Spring Grove Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH

Waste Oxidizing Solid (Sodium Nitrate, Potassium Nitrate)	5 drums/1500 pounds	IL11433598	Spring Grove Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH
Waste Oxidizing Liquid (Sodium Nitrate, Potassium Nitrate)	2 drums/800 pounds	IL11433598	Spring Grove Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH
Waste Corrosive Liquid (Phosphoric Acid, Phosphate Ester)	1 drum/100 pounds	IL11433598	Spring Grove Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH
Waste Fluoroboric Acid	1 drum/100 pounds	IL11433598	Spring Grove Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH
Waste Ethanolamine or Ethoanolamine Solutions	3 drums/1200 pounds	IL11433598	Spring Grove Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH
Waste Hypochlorite Solutions	2 tanks portable/6000 pounds	IL11433598	Spring Grove Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH
Waste Chromic Acid Solid (D001, D002, D007)	1 drum/1200 pounds	IL11433598	Spring Grove Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH
Waste Chromic Trioxide, Anhydrous	1 drum/100 pounds	IL11433598	Spring Grove Resource Recovery, Cincinnati, OH
Waste Corrosive Liquids (Aluminum Sulfate Solution)	4 drums/1600 pounds	IL11433597	Clean Harbors Services, Inc., Chicago, IL
Waste Corrosive Liquid (Sodium Hydroxide, Potassium Hydroxide)	5 drums/2000 pounds	IL11433597	Clean Harbors Services, Inc., Chicago, IL
Waste Corrosive Liquid (Nitric Acid, Phosphoric Acid)	1 drum/400 pounds	IL11433597	Clean Harbors Services, Inc., Chicago, IL
Waste Corrosive Liquid (Sulfuric Acid, Phosphoric Acid)	15 drums/4000 pounds	IL11433597	Clean Harbors Services, Inc., Chicago, IL
Waste Nitric Acid	3 drums/1200 pounds	IL11433597	Clean Harbors Services, Inc., Chicago, IL
Waste Ferric Chloride Solution	2 drums/200 pounds	IL11433597	Clean Harbors Services, Inc., Chicago, IL

Waste Nitric Acid	1 tank portable/3000 pounds	IL11433597	Clean Harbors Services, Inc., Chicago, IL
Waste Formaldehyde Solutions	1 drum/25 pounds	IL10706341	Clean Harbors Reidsville LLC, Reidsville, NC
Waste Resin Solutions	2 drums/400 pounds	IL10706341	Clean Harbors Reidsville LLC, Reidsville, NC
Waste Flammable Liquids (Xylene, Ethylbenzene)	1 drum/200 pounds	IL10706341	Clean Harbors Reidsville LLC, Reidsville, NC
Waste Flammable Liquids (Alcohol, Glycol Ether)	1 drum/200 pounds	IL10706341	Clean Harbors Reidsville LLC, Reidsville, NC
Waste Flammable Liquids (Paint, Resin)	1 drum/200 pounds	IL10706341	Clean Harbors Reidsville LLC, Reidsville, NC
Waste Oxidizing Solid, Toxic (Barium Nitrate, Silver Nitrate)	1 drum/150 pounds	IL10706341	Clean Harbors Reidsville LLC, Reidsville, NC
Waste Hydrogen Peroxide and Peroxyacetic Acid Mixtures	1 drum/70 pounds	IL10706341	Clean Harbors Reidsville LLC, Reidsville, NC
Waste Mercury Compounds	1 drum/15 pounds	IL10706341	Clean Harbors Reidsville LLC, Reidsville, NC
Waste Cresols	1 drum/10 pounds	IL10706341	Clean Harbors Reidsville LLC, Reidsville, NC
Waste Toxic Liquids (Chloroform, Nitrobenzene) D004, D007, D008, D022, D039	1 drum/150 pounds	IL10706341	Clean Harbors Reidsville LLC, Reidsville, NC
Waste Toxic Liquids (Methylene Chloride, Phenol)	1 drum/150 pounds	IL10706341	Clean Harbors Reidsville LLC, Reidsville, NC
Waste Hydrofluoric Acid	1 drum/10 pounds	IL10706341	Clean Harbors Reidsville LLC, Reidsville, NC
Waste Ethanolamine or Ethanolamine Solutions	1 drum/100 pounds	IL10706341	Clean Harbors Reidsville LLC, Reidsville, NC



Waste Corrosive Liquid (Nitric Acid, Phosphoric Acid) D002	1 drum/200 pounds	IL10706341	Clean Harbors Reidsville LLC, Reidsville, NC
Waste Corrosive Liquid (Hydrochloric Acid, Sulfuric Acid)	1 drum/225 pounds	IL10706341	Clean Harbors Reidsville LLC, Reidsville, NC
Waste Corrosive Liquid (Nitric Acid, Phosphoric Acid)	1 drum/200 pounds	IL10706341	Clean Harbors Reidsville LLC, Reidsville, NC
Waste Corrosive Liquid (Potassium Hydroxide, Sodium Hydroxide)	1 drum/200 pounds	IL10706341	Clean Harbors Reidsville LLC, Reidsville, NC
Waste Corrosive Liquid (Formic Acid, Trifluoroacetic Acid) D002	1 drum/25 pounds	IL10706341	Clean Harbors Reidsville LLC, Reidsville, NC
Waste Toxic Solid (Potassium Ferricyanide)	1 drum/25 pounds	IL10706341	Clean Harbors Reidsville LLC, Reidsville, NC
Waste Sodium Hydroxide Solid	55 drums/16500 pounds	IL11760703	Southern Illinois Regional Landfill, Desoto, IL
Waste Sodium Hydroxide	13 CF/15600 pounds	IL11760703	Southern Illinois Regional Landfill, Desoto, IL
Waste Sodium Hydroxide Solid	52 drums/15600 pounds	IL11760706	Southern Illinois Regional Landfill, Desoto, IL
Waste Sodium Hydroxide Solid	17 CF/25500 pounds	IL11760706	Southern Illinois Regional Landfill, Desoto, IL

[www.epaossc.net/gordrum](http://www.epaossc.net/gordrum)